Student Examples: Lawrence Ferlinghetti Model

War is a Necessary Thing

War is a necessary thing

To have to go through

If you don’t mind piles of dead bodies

Not always being

For the right cause

If you don’t mind the worst experience of your life

Now and then

Just when everyone is dead

Because even on earth

It can be hell

All the time.

War is a necessary thing

To have to go through

If you don’t mind blood splatters on your clothes

All the time

Or maybe only crying

Some of the time

Which isn’t half bad

If it isn’t you

Oh war is a necessary thing

To have to go through

If you don’t much mind

A few million shattered dreams

In the lower countries

Or a bomb or two

Now and then

Blowing up next to your car

Or other such atrocities

As our war-mongering society

Is prey to

With its men of destruction

And its men of corruption

And its children

And other slaves

And its various complications

And its war crime investigations

And other organizations

That our dull mind

Is heir to

Yes war is a necessary thing

For a lot of such things as

Taking lives

And making money

And taking land and despoiling it

And marching around

Shooting at everything

And raping towns

And burning cities

And even screaming

And crushing houses and

Stealing family members and losing your own

And throwing grenades

And running

And hiding in wreckage

On foreign ground

In the middle of wastelands

And just blindly

“serving your country”

Yes

But then right in the middle of it

Creeps the smiling

Reaper.

J.T.K.